(c) All the Ward Officers have been instructed to pay personal attention to ensure timely recovery of sales tax dues. The arrears are also recoverable as arrears of land revenue. Steps, like attachment of bank account, attachment of movable/immovable property of the defaulter and his arrest, are also resorted to.

India's Membership to Non-UNO International Organisations

2576. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of non-Uno International agencies/organisations of which India is a member; and

(b) the contributions made to such organisations in financial and professional spheres?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). The information called for is being collected from all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it has been compiled.

Plantation of fruit bearing trees

2577. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the funds earmarked by the Union Government for plantation of fruit bearing trees in the rural areas of the country for 1992-93 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): The State-wise allocation of funds by the Union Government for plantation of fruit bearing trees in the rural areas of the country during 1992-93 will be decided after the schemes are sanctioned and taking into account the performance of the State Governments in implementing the schemes during 1991-92.

[*Translation*]

Death of Prisoners in Tihar Jail

2578. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of undertrial prisoners died in Tihar Jail in Delhi during the last year and in the current year;

(b) the causes of these deaths;

(c) the action taken against the officers found responsible; and

(d) the action being taken to provide proper medical care and ensure humane treatment to the prisoners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The Delhi Administration has reported that 34 undertrials under judicial custody died in Tihar Jail last year and 7 during the current year till 7th March.

(b) & (c). Out of the 41 death cases, inquest reports of Sub-Divisional Magistratte have already been received by the Administration in 20 cases. Except one case of suicide, death in remaining 19 cases was due to illness. In none of these cases, the officer conducting the inquest pointed out any lapse on the part of any jail official.

(d) At present, 5 dispensaries with OPD

are functioning in the jails. Besides emergency services are provided round the clock. There is also a 50 bedded hospital in Central Jail No. 3 for indoor treatment of the prisoners.

[*English*]

Bilateral relations with Japan

2579. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being by the Government to strengthen further bilateral relations with Japan; and

(b) the response of Japan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) India has sought to strengthen and deepen bilateral relations with Japan through exchange of high level visits, imparting momentum to economic cooperation with Japan and through cultural and academic interaction, I visited Japan in January, 1992 and held useful and constructive discussions with the Foreign Minister of Japan. I also met the Prime Minister of Japan and senior Japanese Ministers. The Prime Minister has accepted an invitation from the Japanese Prime Minister to visit Japan. The 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan and the signing of the India-Japan Treaty of Perpetual Peace and Amity is being commemorated this year.

(b) The Japanese Government have stated that it is their intention to further deepen and broaden Japan's relations with India over a broad range of fields. They have expressed appreciation of the economic liberalisation policies undertaken by the Government of India. A high level economic mission was sent to India in January, 1992 by Japan to explore ways and means for promoting trade and investment between India and Japan and for the strengthening of economic relations and deepening mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries.

[*Translation*]

Double Bott-Ling Connections

2580. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the criteria being followed for providing double bottling connections (DBC) facility?

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): The target for giving DBCs in a year is fixed keeping in view the product availability.

Institutions for handicapped in Bihar

2581. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open some more institutions for the welfare of handicapped in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). The Ministry of Welfare will assist voluntary organisations for the welfare of the handicapped in Bihar if they satisfy the conditions prescribed for the grant of assistance.